

UNAPPROVED

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission - Public Meeting, August 17, 2016

The Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission held a Public Meeting on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at 7:30 P.M. in the Town Council Chambers, Wethersfield Town Hall, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109.

Members Present: Lou Sanzaro, Chairman
Brent Owen, Vice Chairman
David Herold
James Kulpa
Brian DiCoccio
David Ambrose

Also Present: Don Moisa IWWC Agent

1 Person in the audience

Chairman Sanzaro opened the meeting at 7:30 pm

GENERAL COMMENTS Public comments of a general nature may be addressed at this time.

Commissioners honored retiring Commissioner Buck for his 35 years on the Commission as a Chairman, Vice Chairman, and member, and for the knowledge, experience and historic information he brought to the Commission.
Commissioner Buck will be missed by the Commission.

PUBLIC MEETING

Application No. 674-16 Town of Wethersfield, Land of the Town of Wethersfield, East side of Old Reservoir Rd. at the intersection with Whippoorwill Way, former Wilkus Farm, Parcel # 087-033 .

Application to create a landscape berm within a regulated wetland area.

Town Engineer Derrick Gregor PE presented the application.

Originally the Town Inland Wetlands Map showed wetlands coming along the Easterly side of Old Reservoir Rd. right of way.

The Town had John Ianni of Highland Soils LLC flag the wetlands limit, and surveyed the wetlands limits.

It turns out that the wetlands line was further to the southern end of the project.

This project came about due to Old Reservoir Rd. being extended to the Whippoorwill Way subdivision and the concerns of residents on Banberry La. of headlights impacting their properties, and also to prevent vehicles from driving onto the former Wilkus property and getting stuck.

They wanted to create a barrier to keep people from driving onto the property.

There will be a separate project to provide access & parking from the East side of the property.

The original plan was to create a 5' high landscaped berm with arborvitae plantings on top but it was decided to cut the berm down to 3.5' high to limit the side slope distance onto the property and also reduce the amount of wetland impact.

The berm will be about 200' long with 2:1 side slopes with 22 arborvitae planted on top.

Silt fence will be set at the base of the berm.

Commissioners questioned if there were areas to mitigate the wetlands disturbance and if any other regulatory agencies would need to review.

Mr. Gregor indicated there are some areas where some mitigation could occur but it might be better to leave the areas undisturbed.

The disturbed area is well under the 5000 SF threshold for ACE review.

Sidewalks will extend down the West side of Old Reservoir Rd.

The berm will protect the existing wetlands from people driving through and getting stuck.

Motion by Commissioner Herold to Approve the plan as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Ambrose

All voted in favor, motion passed.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

1. Nomination and Election of a Chairman
Motion by Commissioner Owen seconded by Commissioner Herold to elect Commissioner Sanzaro as Chairman.
All voted in favor
Motion passed
2. Nomination and Election of a Vice Chairman
Motion by Commissioner Herold seconded by Commissioner Kulpa to elect Commissioner Owen as Vice Chairman.
All voted in favor
Motion passed
3. Authorization of Derrick Gregor and Don Moisa to sign notices of the Commission
Motion by Commissioner Herold seconded by Commissioner Ambrose.
All voted in favor
Motion passed
4. Appointment of Don Moisa as Designated Agent of the Commission
Motion by Commissioner Herold seconded by Commissioner Ambrose.
All voted in favor
Motion passed

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes- May 18, 2016
(BO,DH,JK,BD,DA)

Motion by Commissioner Owen seconded by Commissioner Herold to approve the minutes.
All Commissioners present at the meeting voted in favor. Motion passed
2. Correspondence (No Action Required)
 - a. "The Torrent" newsletter

- b. "Sound Outlook" newsletter
 - c. "Your Environmental Connection"
 - d. Upcoming invasive plant symposium, October 11, 2016
 - e. Inland Wetlands Subcommittee Review 1860 Reservoir Access Rd.
- 3 Update on concerns raised by Mr. Pagani from 6 Ivy on the fence, water levels and litter along the open space areas along Wells Rd. between Ivy La. And Colonel Chester Dr. at the May 18, 2016 meeting.

Don Moisa explained that there was a small obstruction in the watercourse on the south side of Wells Rd that was removed, which lowered the water level 12" more or less.

The fence and litter question was referred to the Town Physical Services Dept.

Don Moisa also spoke to the State DOT Maintenance garage and was informed that the State was aware of the standing water in their drainage system and had looked at the area last year with their drainage engineers.

They determined that the pipes crossing under Wells Rd were lower than the inlet and outlet stream beds so they would constantly hold water.

- 4 Discussion on combining the Conservation Commission and the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Commissioners discussed if there was a need for the Conservation Commission with the Town being so built up, and concerns with the possible conflicting duties of the two Commissions.

There was discussion of disbanding the Conservation Commission and allowing interested members to fill vacancies on the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sanzaro Adjourned the meeting at 7:56 pm

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the minutes approved by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission.

Don Moisa, Wetlands Agent

Date